



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

\$ RCE  
2815

Applicant: Lap Wai Chow, et al.

) Examiner: Nguyen, Joseph H.  
) Art Unit: 2815  
)

Patent Appl: 09/768,904

) Our Ref: B-3964 618029-8  
)

Filed: January 24, 2001

) Date: January 12, 2004  
)

For: "INTEGRATED CIRCUITS"  
PROTECTED AGAINST REVERSE  
ENGINEERING ..."

) Re: *RCE*  
)  
)

**37 CFR 1.114 REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Request under 37 CFR 1.114 for a Request for Continued Examination of the above-referenced application 09/768,904 filed on January 24, 2001. This request is timely filed within the time allowed for response to the final rejection Official Action mailed September 10, 2003, along with a petition for one month extension of time. Also enclosed is an Amendment for consideration by the Examiner upon continued examination..

This request is accompanied by a check for the RCE fee in the amount of \$770.00 as specified in 37 CFR 1.17(e). The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayments, and to charge any further fees required to ensure the continued examination of this application to deposit account no. 12-0425.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231 on:

January 12, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Ross A. Schmitt

(Name of Person Depositing)

*Ross A. Schmitt*

(Signature)

1-12-2004

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,

*Ross A. Schmitt*

Ross A. Schmitt

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	)	Art Unit: 2815
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Patent Appl: 09/768,904	)	Our Ref: B-3964 618029-8
	)	
Filed: January 24, 2001	)	Date: January 12, 2003
	)	
For: "INTEGRATED CIRCUITS "	)	Re: <i>Amendment</i>
PROTECTED AGAINST REVERSE	)	
ENGINEERING AND METHOD FOR	)	
FABRICATING THE SAME USING AS	)	
APPARENT METAL CONTACT LINE	)	
TERMINATING ON FIELD OXIDE"	)	

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed with a Request for Continued Examination being filed concurrently herewith. The Applicants note that a Response to the pending Final Office Action for the above-referenced application was filed on November 12, 2003, but the Examiner did not enter the amendments proposed in that response. Therefore, this paper presents amendments to the application and the Applicants respectfully request that these amendments be entered. The amendments set forth in this response are based on a telephone interview conducted with the Examiner on November 12, 2003. **All amendments and remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.